



Governor Terry E. Branstad  
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds  
San Wong, Director

### **2013-2014 Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs** **Public Policy Priorities**

The Commission of Latino Affairs held a meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> of 2013 discussed and approved the statements in this document and in accordance with Iowa Code **216A.13**.

**Commission of Latino affairs — duties:** The commission shall have the following duties:

4. Recommend legislative and executive action to the governor and general assembly.

**Latinos in Iowa comprise 162,894 of the entire state population – 2013 Iowa Data Center**

#### **PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES – COMMISSION OF LATINO AFFAIRS**

- 1- **Immigration – Support of Sensible Immigration Reform.** The Latino Affairs Commission respectfully requests the support of the legislature on statement drafted by the Latino Affairs Commission in 2013 in support of federal reform. The statement titled Latino Affairs Commission – May 2013 Support of Sensible Immigration Reform A Call to Iowans and Iowa elected Officials reflects our position on the issue. In addition to your support we ask that you take this statement into consideration when reviewing and voting for state laws that come before you so that Iowa laws are welcoming to Latinos in the state.
- 2- **Iowa Civil Rights Commission (ICCR).** Discrimination in the workplace is the highest inquiry to the Office of Latino Affairs. The Commission of Latino affairs highly encourages, supports and is willing to engage the Iowa Civil Rights Commission to enhance education for Latino employees and education for Iowa employers to prevent growing discrimination in the workplace that directly and negatively affect Latinos. [https://icrc.iowa.gov/sites/files/civil\\_rights/documents/Annual%20Report%20FY13%20final.pdf](https://icrc.iowa.gov/sites/files/civil_rights/documents/Annual%20Report%20FY13%20final.pdf)
- 3- **Iowa Department of Education** - The Commission of Latino Affairs strongly encourages in state tuition for beneficiaries of Deferred Action Childhood Arrival – DACA. This will provide access to education to many Latino youth that will contribute to the economic development goals set by the Governor. In addition, the Commission of Latino Affairs supports the position proposed by the Iowa Division of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning (see enclosed). This document presents solutions to the **Disproportionate Representation of Latino Youth and other minorities in the Judicial System.**
- 4- **Iowa Department of Human Services. Latino Children and Youth**  
The Latino Affairs Commission respectfully presents following recommendations for the improvement of the lives of Latino children, youth and families in Iowa:
  - a- The Commission of Latino Affairs support the replication of bilateral agreements with Latin consulate general representatives of the Latino population in Iowa.  
(<http://www.iowadatacenter.org/Publications/latinos2013.pdf>):  
México (Agreement already in place-see link below or document enclosed), El Salvador, Guatemala,

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Honduras, Ecuador, Puerto Rico). To read existing agreement with the Consulate of Mexico in Omaha go to this link: [http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/policyanalysis/PolicyManualPages/Manual\\_Documents/Master/17-C3%20T12.pdf](http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/policyanalysis/PolicyManualPages/Manual_Documents/Master/17-C3%20T12.pdf)

- b- Strengthening adherence to the federal requirements on culturally competent services:  
<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/news/2008/discrimrace.html>
  - c- The commission fully supports the **Early Childhood Counts** Legislative Priorities:  
Quality Early Learning and Development  
Child Health and Well-Being  
Family Economic Success  
[http://www.cfpciowa.org/documents/filelibrary/ecc/2014\\_ECC\\_Legislative\\_Priorities\\_46763714149B6.pdf](http://www.cfpciowa.org/documents/filelibrary/ecc/2014_ECC_Legislative_Priorities_46763714149B6.pdf)
  - d- We recommend the Iowa Department of Human Services to regularly disclose the numbers of Latino children currently experiencing out of home care to stakeholders and consumers.
- 5- **Iowa Secretary of State - Civic Engagement Education** – The Commission of Latino Affairs highly encourages, supports and will gladly engage the Iowa Secretary of State in enhancing their current outreach and education to Latino voters in Iowa.

*Draft presented by Commissioner Jaimes at the November 2013 commission meeting.*

Commission of Latino Affairs